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INFORMATION REPORT

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1. [redacted] the sections of the former Fliegerhorst-Kaserne in Halberstadt, which had been vacated by the civilian population, were reoccupied by a border police unit of 600 police. In early April, the unit arrived from the area of Ostervieck where the personnel had been quartered in private billets rather than in a barracks installation. The unit was under the command of VP Kommandeur Lange (fnu) who was 24 years old. The motor vehicles of the unit were old models, but the motorcycles were factory-new. [redacted] 25X1  
The unit was armed with only hand weapons and machine guns. The unit rotates detachments through the border stations along the Glend-Stapelburg-Muelperode-Faldheim-Rhoden-Hessen-Dedeleben-Potenleben line. \*
2. On 22 May, the VP Kommando in Bismarcken, south of Hildburghausen, was increased from 45 to 70 police. The Kommando had a sedan and a number of motorcycles.
3. VP personnel and a small number of Soviets quartered in Umerstadt, Lindenau and Steuffdorf in the Hildburghausen-Heldburg border area were alerted and left during the night of 22 May. They took all their billeting equipment with them. The battalion headquarters, which was stationed in Heldburg, also departed with all billeting equipment but left behind a small rear detachment. [redacted] Only small detachments of mounted police, [redacted] came from Bismarcken, remained in that border area. Preparations for the clearing of a 500-meter zone are being made along the border.
4. In late May, 30 VP personnel were sent to Hoenbach, and about an equal number of Soviet soldiers moved from Hoenbach to Neubisch. A strip about 10 meters wide was plowed up with tractors in the Sonneberg border area.
5. The VP stationed in the Weferlingen-Moetenleben border area was relieved by new units during the night of 23 May. Only rear detachments familiar with the location remained. The new Kommandos had a larger number of personnel than previous Kommandos. For example, the Kommando stationed in Weendorf has 3 officers and 24 police. A strip, between 10 and 20 meters wide was leveled by civilian laborers along the Schwarzfeld-Weendorf-Moetenleben border.

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6. [redacted] personnel was withdrawn for an unknown destination from all WP Kommandos in the Slessau border area. The entire Kommando in Schrampe was withdrawn and the place was not reoccupied on 28 May. It was rumored that new and larger units were to be formed.
7. Up to 600 laborers were employed in the border area across from Gifhorn-Wittingen in the Luenzburg Regierungsbezirk on 29 and 30 May to establish the demarcation line. The control strip, 10 meters wide, from Kaiserwinkel as far as Lauen was completed on 30 May. A barbed wire was laid from Luebbow, 4.5 km east-southeast of Luetzen, to Volzendorf, 2 km east-southeast of Luetzen.
8. The following observations were made on German and Soviet border guard units in Land Germany-Anhalt:
 

|                                                   |                                                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Steinke                                           | VP increased by 15 police.                                                                  |
| Schneclau                                         | A VP Kommando of 60 police since 27 May 1952.                                               |
| Niewohl and<br>Lagendorf                          | Vacated by VP border guard details which were transferred to the rear area.                 |
| Dahrendorf                                        | A VP Kommando of 10 police.                                                                 |
| Barnebeck                                         | A VP Kommando of 60 police.                                                                 |
| Aulosen                                           | A VP Kommando of 160 police who, on 29 May 1952, allegedly came from Halle and Weissenfels. |
| Euchhorst                                         | A tent camp housing 300 Soviet soldiers.                                                    |
| Hammer Busch<br>2 km north-north<br>west of Brome | A Soviet infantry unit and a VP unit each of about 50 men quartered in tent camps.          |
| Kettigau                                          | A new Soviet unit of unknown strength.                                                      |
| Houersberg                                        | A Soviet unit of 100 men.                                                                   |
| Kochau                                            | The VP unit stationed there is to be relieved by Soviet troops.                             |
| Kleinau                                           | Between 30 and 40 Soviet troops.                                                            |
| Osterburg                                         | The finance office was vacated for Soviet troops.                                           |
| Arendsee and<br>Broesede                          | Soviet units of undetermined strength.                                                      |
9. On 27 May, the Soviet zone border area at the Hara Htz was divided into three sections, namely one cleared strip, about 20 meters wide along the zonal border, one protective zone about 500 meters wide and a restricted zone, about 5 km wide. All houses located inside the 10-meter strip were vacated and the strip was completely barred to all civilians. People living inside the 500-meter protective zone are to be issued special permits. All unreliable persons were evacuated from this zone and sent to the interior of the Soviet zone of Germany. The same measure was taken for the 5 km restricted zone. Residents living there are not allowed to leave their homes during the time from 10 p.m. till 5 a.m. The border was not cleared at several places in the Hara Htz area on 3 and 4 June.

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\* [ ] Comment. The information confirms previous information which indicated that the VP Bereitschaft in Osterwieck was transferred to Halberstadt. VP Kommandeur Lange (fmu) probably is former VP Ober-  
rat Lange (fmu) who, in December 1951, was assigned to the border  
police department of the VP main administration. [ ]

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\* [ ] Comment. All observations tend to indicate that the sealing of the zonal border is in progress on orders of the Soviet Zone Ministry of State Security. It is believed that a reshuffle of units was made only inside the border sectors assigned to the Bereitschaften. There are no indications that the border sectors have been reassigned. The reshuffling indicated by the present report was apparently to break off any contact between the border police and local residents and thus to prevent irregularities. The replacements observed in a number of places probably do not represent any substantial increase in the entire number of the border police but are a corollary of this reshuffling. No reports are available to confirm information on an increased number of Soviet troops on the zonal border. It is believed that the intensified sealing off the zonal border is to be effected chiefly by organizational and tactical measures and less by an actual increase of personnel.